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CHAPTER 236

AN ACT to amend 14.71 (4) (b), (c) 1 and 2 and (d) to (h); and to repeal and recreate 14.71 (4) (a) and (c) 3 to 8 of the statutes, relating to a cost of living bonus for employes of the state.

The people of the state of Wisconsin, represented in senate and assembly, do enact as follows:

SECTION 1. 14.71 (4) (a) of the statutes is repealed and recreated to read:

14.71 (4) (a) In a rapidly changing economy it has been found essential to supplement fixed salaries with a bonus that varies from time to time in accordance with changes in consumers' prices.

SECTION 2. 14.71 (4) (b) and (c) 1 and 2 of the statutes are amended to read:

14.71 (4) (b) Each employe in the competitive division of the classified service, except employes paid on a prevailing rate on a per diem basis, shall be paid a * * * cost of living bonus as hereinafter provided, in addition to the salary currently payable to such employe pursuant to ss. 14.71 (3) and 16.105 (2) and (4), without restriction or limitation by reason of the maximum salary of the range established for his classification or other statutory limitation thereof.

(c) 1. An initial * * * cost of living bonus shall be paid monthly to each such employe as follows:

Present Monthly	Initial * * *
* * * Salary	Cost of Living
Rate	Bonus
\$110 or less	* * * \$67
\$115 or more	* * * \$65

2. Such initial * * * cost of living bonus shall be deemed compensation for living conditions prevailing as of * * * *January 15, 1953*, which together with such further adjustments as may be made in accordance with this subsection shall be applicable on the effective date of this section.

SECTION 3. 14.71 (4) (c) 3 to 8 of the statutes are repealed and recreated to read:

14.71 (4) (c) 3. The revised consumers' price index, average 1947 — 1949 = 100, all items, all cities combined, established by the bureau of labor statistics of the U. S. department of labor and as printed in the monthly labor review, or as otherwise released, shall be used for computing increases or decreases in the cost of living bonus.

4. The cost of living bonus shall be adjusted quarterly each year on January 1, April 1, July 1, and October 1, if the index has changed 0.6 or more points from the index of January 15, 1953 which shall be the base index for the first adjustment made, and thereafter such cost of living bonus shall be based on the index on which the last previous adjustment was based.

5. The indexes to be used for adjusting the cost of living bonus shall be the October 15, January 15, April 15, and the July 15 indexes, respectively, in each quarterly period.

6. The governor, personnel board and the emergency board as soon after such index material for such applicable quarterly periods of each year is made available by the director of personnel, shall meet in joint conference, from time to time, to compute such change in the cost of living indices and determine therefrom if such initial (or the then applicable) cost of living bonus shall be changed as provided therein.

7. If it is found that the index number has increased or decreased 0.6 or more points, quarterly, the cost of living bonus shall be increased or decreased at the rate of \$1 for each such full 0.6 point of increase or decrease in the consumers' price index.

SECTION 4. 14.71 (4) (d) to (h) of the statutes are amended to read:

14.71 (4) (d) Such * * * cost of living bonus payment shall not be deemed or construed to constitute a change in classification, rank, promotion or compensation and the civil service status of such employe shall be determined without reference thereto.

(e) All employes employed on a part-time basis shall be paid such portion of the * * * cost of living bonus payment as their actual time employed shall bear to full-time employment.

(f) Such * * * cost of living bonus payment and from time to time the adjustment thereof shall not prevent the department head or officer from granting any employe intermediate salary merit increases during such period.

(g) Upon certification of the department head or officer to the director of budget and accounts, such director shall forthwith determine the sum of money necessary from the appropriation provided in s. 20.07 (16) for the payment of the * * * cost of living bonus and from time to time the adjustments thereof of employes of such board, department, commission or institution, and the director of budget and accounts shall thereupon extend a credit in like sum therefor, to all appropriations and including those in which the receipts are appropriated or reappropriated wherein the director shall determine whether a supplementary appropriation is necessary therefor.

(h) The payment of such initial * * * cost of living bonus shall commence in the first full calendar month and for the first regular pay roll period occurring therein following * * * *March 31, 1953*.

Approved June 2, 1953.